

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re U.S. Patent Application of: I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the Jack K. Hosking et al. Applicant(s): United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 10/689,452 Serial No.: 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date. Filed: October 20, 2003 RAIL FASTENER DRIVER For: Registration No WITH ENHANCED **FASTENER POSITIONING** 3617 Art Unit: To be assigned Examiner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R.§§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

January 30, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

300 South Wacker Drive - Suite 2500

Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 360-0080
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
Customer Number 24978
P:\DOCS\1425\67029\413169.DOC

Lawrence J. Crain Registration No. 31,497

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

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Attorney Docket No.: 1425.67029 Serial No.: 10/689,452 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Applicant: Jack K. Hosking et al. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date: October 20, 2003 Group: 3617 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Filing Date Examiner Initial* **Document Number** Class Subclass If Appropriate Name Date 4,579,061 4/1/1986 Dieringer 4,777,885 10/18/1988 Dieringer 5,191,840 | 3/9/1993 Cotic et al. 5,542,355 | 8/6/1996 Madison et al. 5,671,679 | 9/30/1997 Straub et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation Subclass Yes No Class **Document Number** Date Country OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) **Date Considered** Examiner Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through *Examiner: citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.